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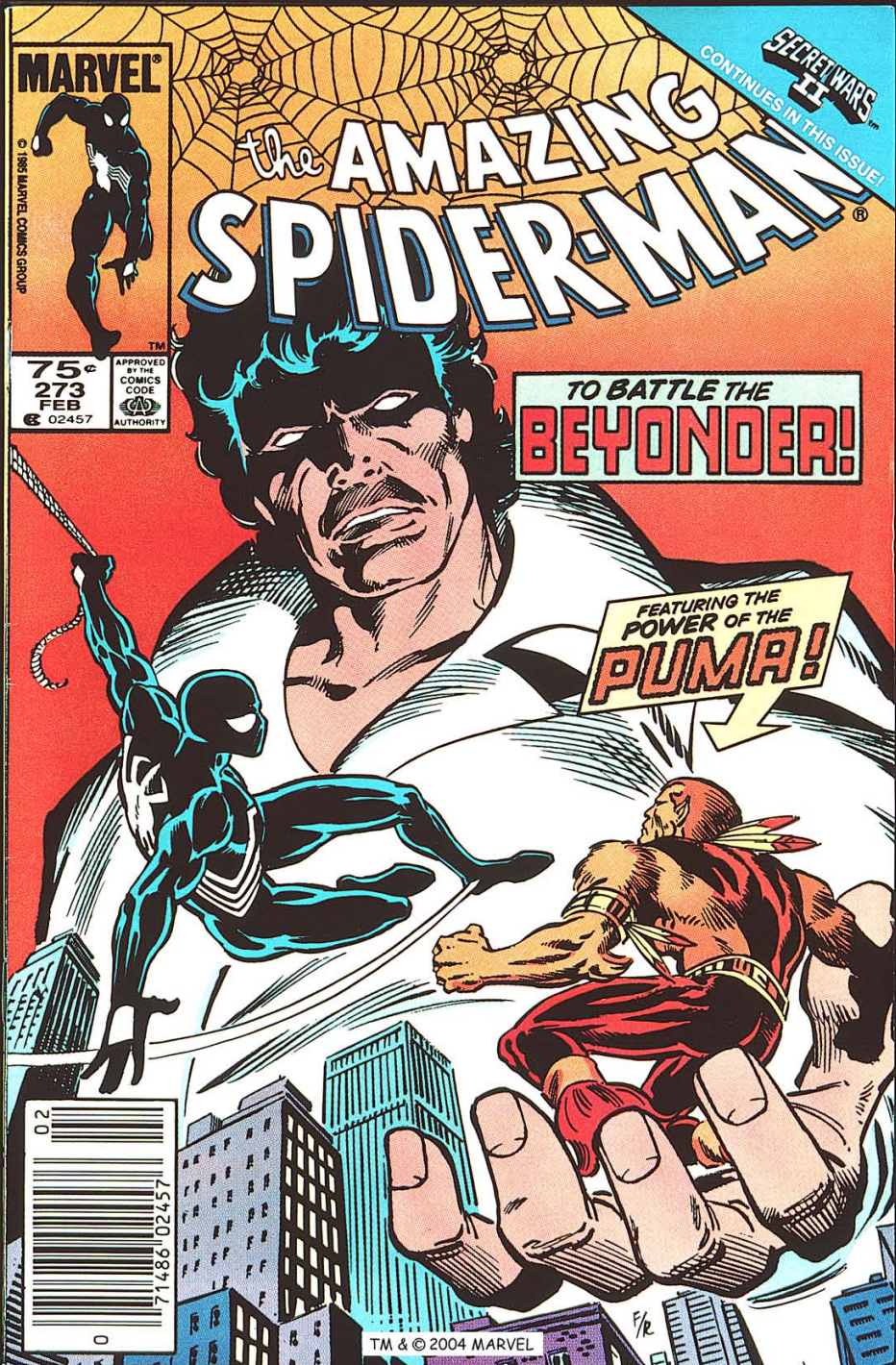
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

SECRET WARS II
CONTINUES IN THIS ISSUE!

TO BATTLE THE
BEYONDER!

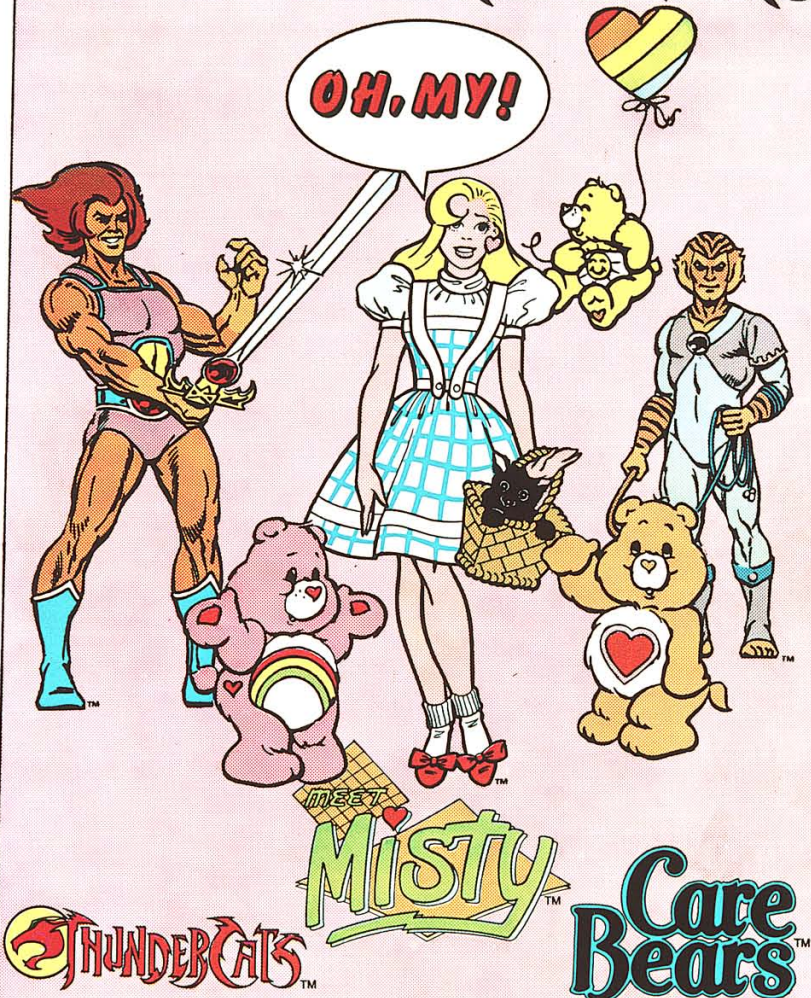
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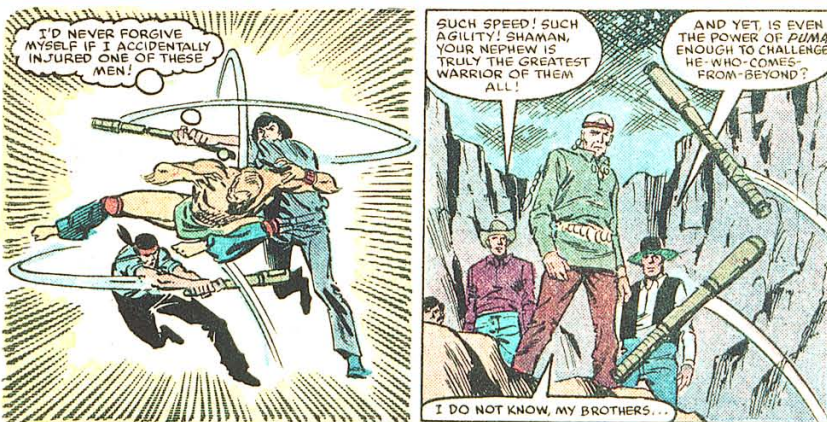
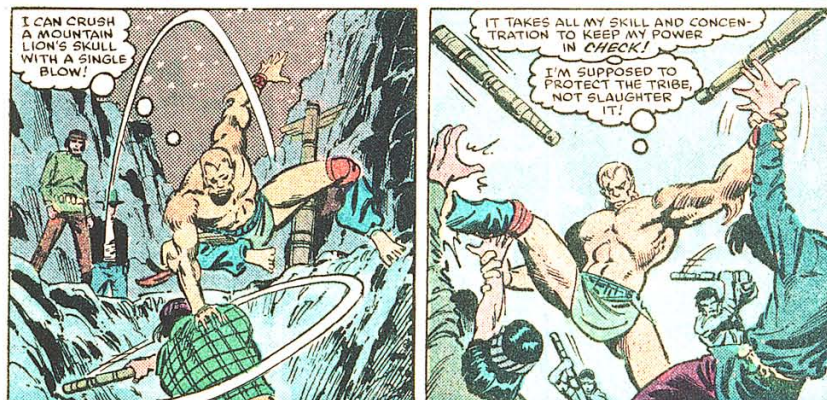
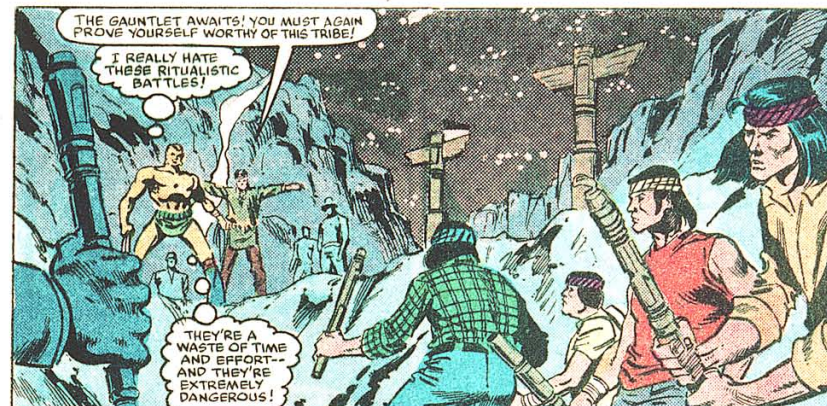
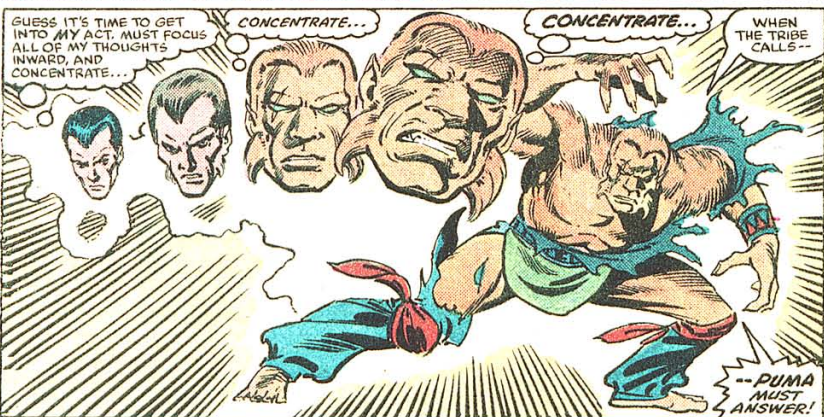
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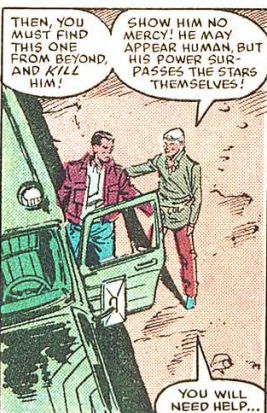
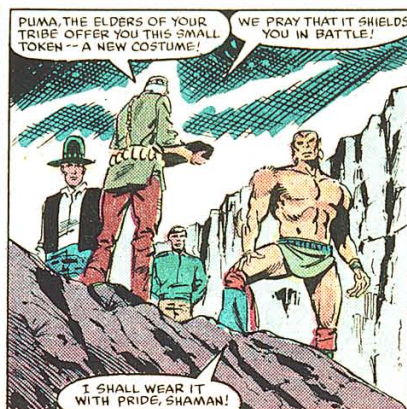


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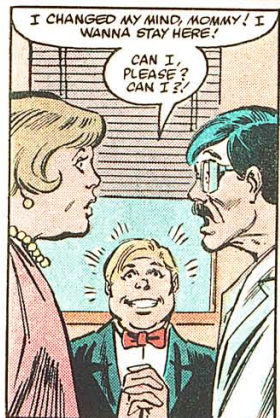
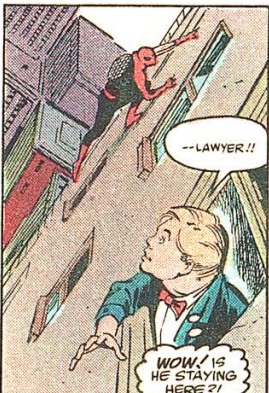
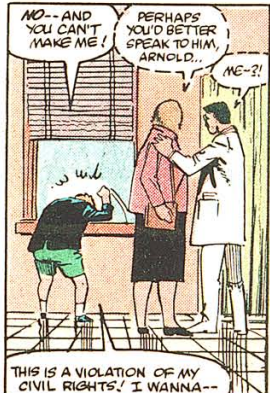
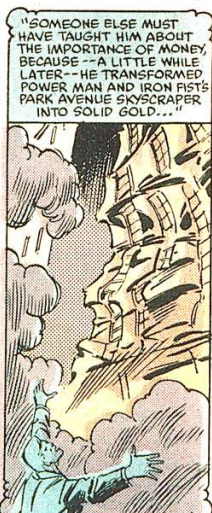
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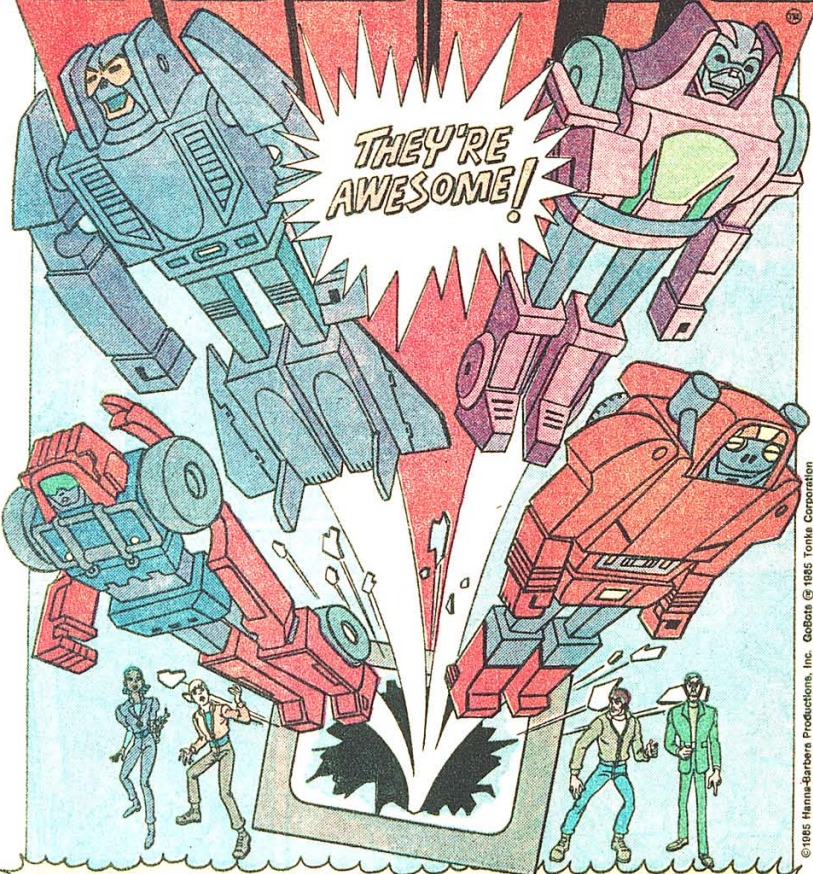
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HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW HUNK IN ER?

THE ONE WITH THE DREAMY EYES?



WHAT THE --??
HI, AUNT MAY!
WHERE'D YOU
GET THE NEW
BUTTON?

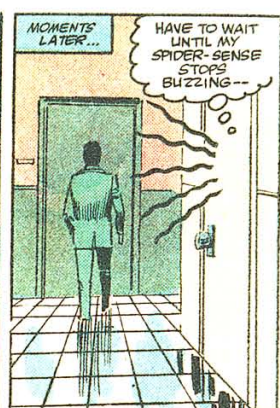
A VERY NICE
YOUNG MAN
GAVE IT TO ME!
HE WAS SO
POLITE!
WOULDN'T EVEN
ACCEPT A
DONATION FOR IT!

THIS ISN'T MY
SOAP OPERA!



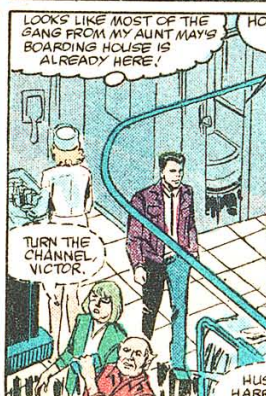
PHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! I GOTTA LEARN TO BE MORE CAREFUL!

GUESS I SHOULD HAVE WEAVED THAT DOOR CLOSED WITH A STRAND OF WEBBING!

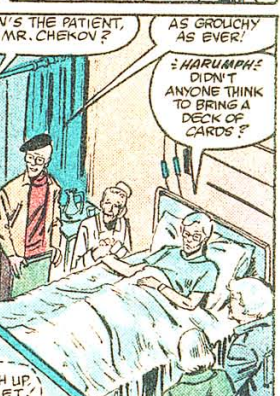


MOMENTS LATER...

HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL MY SPIDER-SENSE STOPS BUZZING--

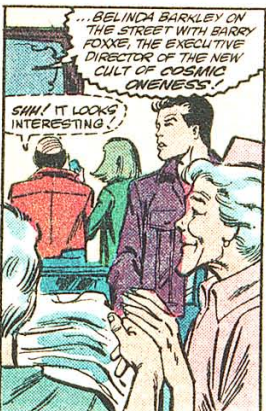


TURN THE CHANNEL, VICTOR.



AS GROUCHY AS EVER!

HARUMPH! DIDN'T ANYONE THINK TO BRING A DECK OF CARDS?



...BELINDA BARKLEY ON THE STREET WITH BARRY FOXKE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW CULT OF COSMIC ONENESS!

SH! IT LOOKS INTERESTING!



I WISH YOU WOULDN'T REFER TO US AS A CULT, MS. BARKLEY! THAT WORD HAS RELIGIOUS CONNOTATIONS!

OUR MESSAGE IS FOR EVERYONE! IT TRANSCENDS ALL RELIGIOUS BOUNDARIES!

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EVERY SUNDAY MORNING!

THE FUNTASTIC WORLD OF HANNA-BARBERA

-- AND IT'S UP TO EACH INDIVIDUAL TO INTERPRET IT AS HE OR SHE SEES FIT!

AS I SEE IT, WE'RE ALL A PART OF THE SAME UNIVERSE, AND WE MUST REALIZE THAT OUR ACTIONS AFFECT EVERYONE ELSE IN THIS UNIVERSE!

I CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT!

NEITHER CAN I!

SO, THEN, WHY DO I FEEL SO UNEASY ABOUT THIS CULT?!

JUST THEN, A CUSTOM-BUILT LEAR, OWNED BY FIREHEART ENTERPRISES, TAKES TO A LANDING AT LAGUARDIA AIRPORT...

YOU SOUND SO FAR AWAY, THOMAS. WHERE ARE YOU CALLING FROM?

NEW YORK CITY.

I'LL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, JENNA, AND I WANT YOU TO RUN THINGS WHILE I'M GONE.

WHAT ABOUT THE JAPANESE OIL DEAL?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. I'LL CHECK IN PERIODICALLY FOR UPDATES.

MR. FIREHEART, YOUR LIMOUSINE WILL BE HERE SHORTLY.

THANK YOU, CAPTAIN.

I'VE MADE RESERVATIONS FOR YOU AND THE REST OF THE CREW AT A NEARBY HOTEL. YOUR EXPENSES ARE COVERED. ENJOY YOURSELVES -- BUT BE READY TO LEAVE WITHIN TWO HOURS' NOTICE!

YES, SIR!

THE LAST TIME I CAME TO NEW YORK, I TRACKED SPIDER-MAN TO HIS APARTMENT TO KILL HIM! *

AND NOW, MY UNCLE WANTS ME TO ASK HIM FOR HELP

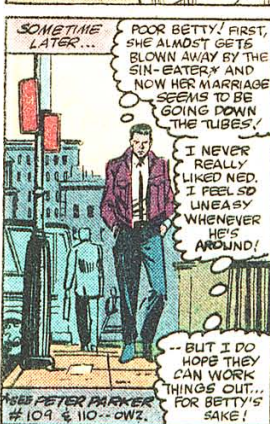
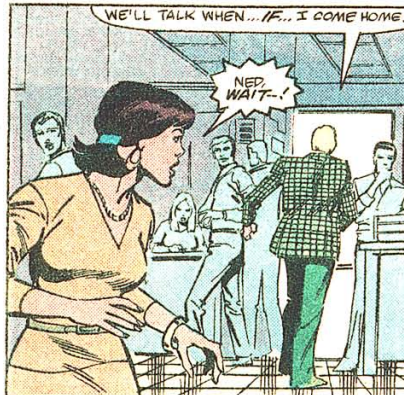
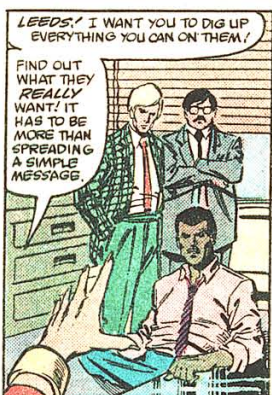
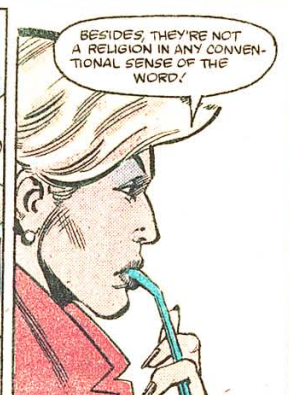
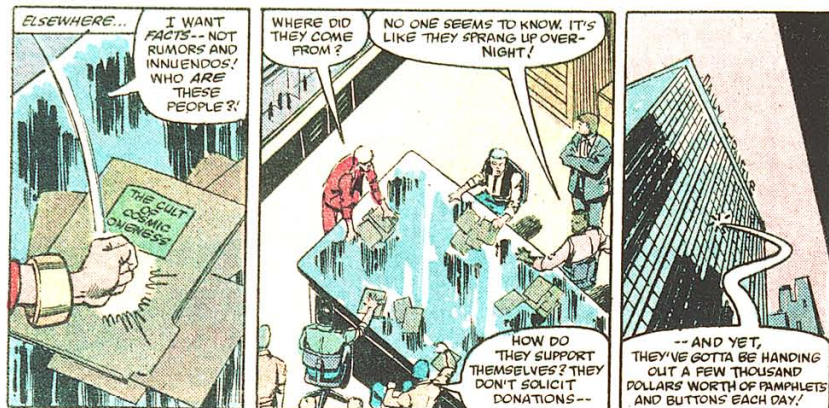
THIS SHOULD PROVE INTERESTING...

* SEE ISSUES # 256 & 257 -- ONZ!

AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FINDING HE-WHO-COMES-FROM-BEYOND. THE TEAM OF INVESTIGATORS I HIRED ARE SURE THEY'VE PINPOINTED HIM...

IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT I REALLY APPRECIATE HAVING THE RESOURCES OF A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CORPORATION AT MY DISPOSAL!

Cosmic Oneness





SHORTLY...

DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME? CAN THAT POSSIBLY BE THE EVER-DELIGHTFUL EVER-RAVISHING MARY JANE WATSON, WHO'S SITTING ON MY STOOP?!

CAN THE COMPLIMENTS, OSWALD! YOU'RE LATE!

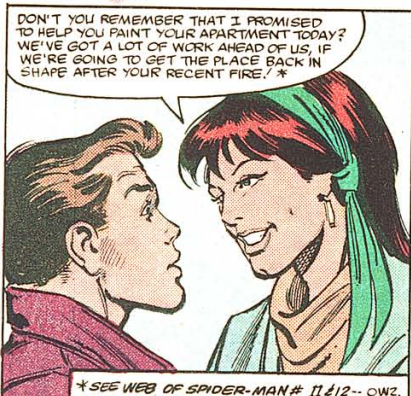
LATE?!



DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT OUR DATE!

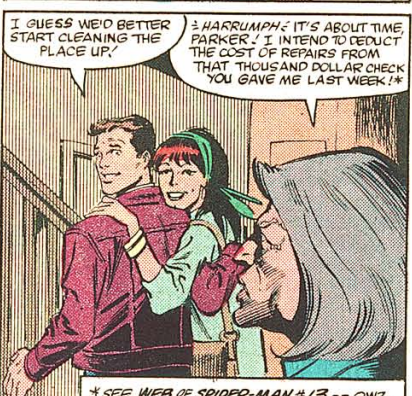
DATE?!

MY, MY, I'LL GET YOU SPEND HOURS PRACTICING THOSE SNAPPY ONE-WORD COMEBACKS!



DON'T YOU REMEMBER THAT I PROMISED TO HELP YOU PAINT YOUR APARTMENT TODAY? WE'VE GOT A LOT OF WORK AHEAD OF US, IF WE'RE GOING TO GET THE PLACE BACK IN SHAPE AFTER YOUR RECENT FIRE! *

* SEE WEB OF SPIDER-MAN # 11 #12 -- OWZ.



I GUESS WE'D BETTER START CLEANING THE PLACE UP!

HARRUMPH! IT'S ABOUT TIME, PARKER! I INTEND TO DEDUCT THE COST OF REPAIRS FROM THAT THOUSAND DOLLAR CHECK YOU GAVE ME LAST WEEK! *

* SEE WEB OF SPIDER-MAN # 13 -- OWZ.

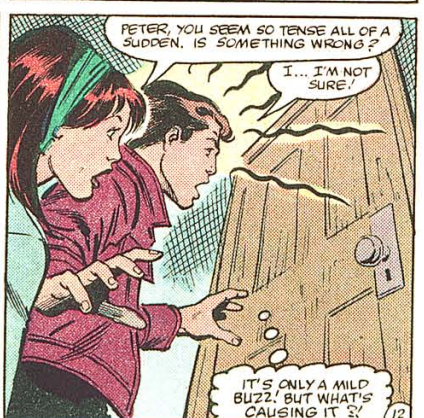


AND THAT MEANS YOUR RENT IS LATE-- AGAIN!

YOUR LANDLADY IS REAL CHARMING.

OH, MRS. MUGGINS, ISN'T SO BAD YOU JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO...

HEY! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING--!



PETER, YOU SEEM SO TENSE ALL OF A SUDDEN. IS SOMETHING WRONG?

I... I'M NOT SURE!

IT'S ONLY A MILD BUZZ! BUT WHAT'S CAUSING IT?!



GOOD AFTERNOON, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

HOPES YOU DON'T MIND, BUT I'VE ALREADY HELPED MYSELF TO SOME COFFEE.

DAY IN EVE WAY I'LL GET BETTER BETTER...

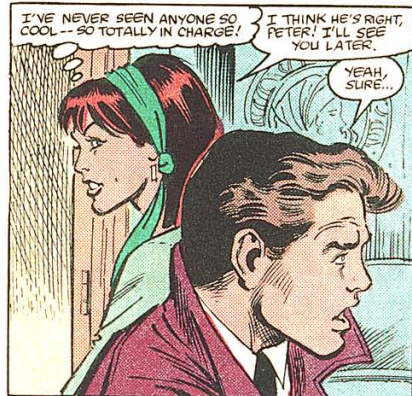
INTERESTING DECOR YOU HAVE HERE. WHAT DO YOU CALL IT-- BARBECUED BAROQUE?!



I AM AFRAID THAT WHAT I HAVE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU IS QUITE PRIVATE.

THE YOUNG LADY WILL HAVE TO GO.

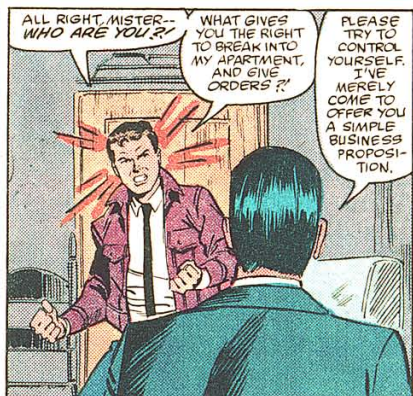
WHAT--?!



I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO COOL-- SO TOTALLY IN CHARGE!

I THINK HE'S RIGHT, PETER! I'LL SEE YOU LATER.

YEAH, SURE...



ALL RIGHT, MISTER-- WHO ARE YOU?!

WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO BREAK INTO MY APARTMENT, AND GIVE ORDERS?!

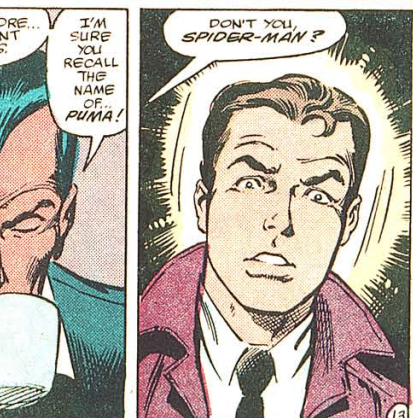
PLEASE TRY TO CONTROL YOURSELF. I'VE MERELY COME TO OFFER YOU A SIMPLE BUSINESS PROPOSITION.



BY THE WAY, I DISCOVERED THIS ON TOP OF YOUR TELEVISION SET. BY MY RECKONING, IT'S WORTH ABOUT THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS!

IT BELONGS IN A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX.

WHO ARE YOU?!



WE'VE MET BEFORE... UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

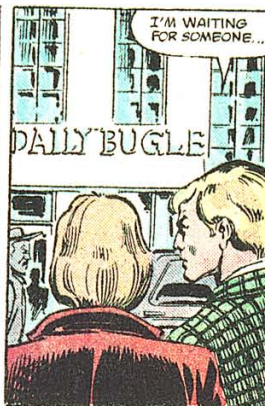
I'M SURE YOU RECALL THE NAME OF PUMA!

DON'T YOU, SPIDER-MAN?!



MEANWHILE... I DON'T GET IT, LEEDS? WHY ARE WE HANGING AROUND HERE?

RELAX, BANNON.



I'M WAITING FOR SOMEONE...



"... SOMEONE SPECIAL!"

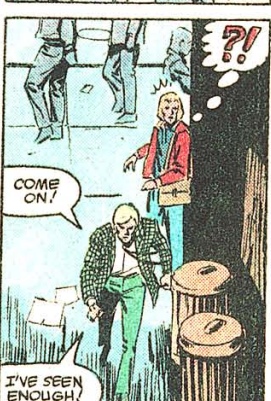


WHAT'S THE RUSH, SWEET THING? GOT A DATE?

FLASH! I'M SO GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. I REALLY NEEDED TO SEE YOU TODAY.

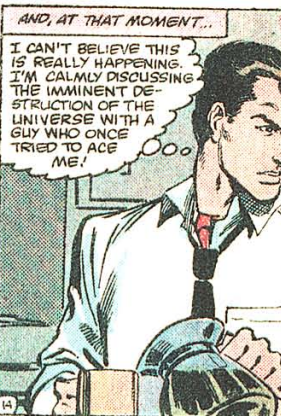


I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!



COME ON!

I'VE SEEN ENOUGH!



AND, AT THAT MOMENT...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING. I'M CALMLY DISCUSSING THE IMMINENT DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE WITH A GUY WHO ONCE TRIED TO ACE ME!

LET'S SAY I AM SPIDER-MAN, YOU'RE TAKING AN AWFUL CHANCE SHOWING ME YOUR REAL FACE.

THERE ARE BILLIONS OF FACES IN THIS WORLD. THE ODDS OF YOUR RECOGNIZING MINE ARE QUITE SLIM.

I CAN LOCATE PEOPLE BY THEIR INDIVIDUAL SCENTS. YOU CAN'T.

I MAY KNOW YOUR FACE, SPIDER-MAN, BUT NOT YOUR REAL NAME.

YEAH, WELL, SO YOU'RE HERE TO KILL THE BEYONDER?

YES, IF SUCH A BEING TRULY EXISTS.



IF THE LEGENDS OF MY PEOPLE ARE TO BE BELIEVED, HE IS DESTINED TO TURN AGAINST HUMANITY LIKE A MAD DOG.

WE MUST STOP HIM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



SPIDER-MAN, I FULLY INTEND TO COMPENSATE YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

WILL A RETAINER OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS BE SUFFICIENT?



WHOA! I DON'T HIRE OUT FOR MURDER AT ANY PRICE!

AND YET, WHAT IF HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THE BEYONDER?



LISTEN, I MAY NOT LIKE YOU, BUT I STILL CAN'T LET YOU FACE THE BEYONDER ALONE! IT'S SUICIDE!

YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING DILEMMA.



I'M WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH YOU FOR NOW... BUT I'M NOT MAKING ANY COMMITMENTS... UNTIL I'VE ASSESSED THE SITUATION FOR MYSELF.

FAIR ENOUGH!

WE'LL LEAVE AS SOON AS I'VE CHANGED.

SURE, YOU CAN USE THIS ROOM.



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS GUY! HE CARRIES HIS CIVILS AROUND IN A GUY'S SHOULDER BAG. TALK ABOUT OSTENTATIOUS!

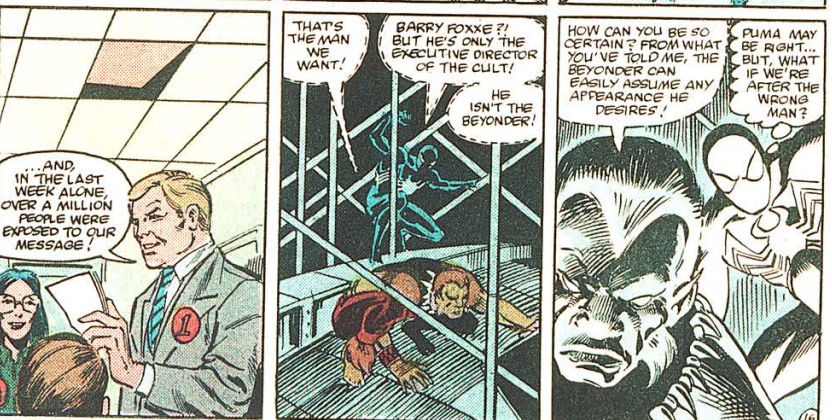
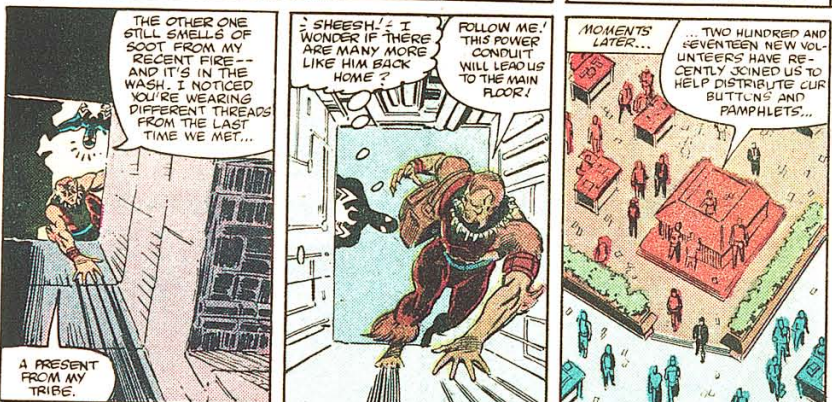
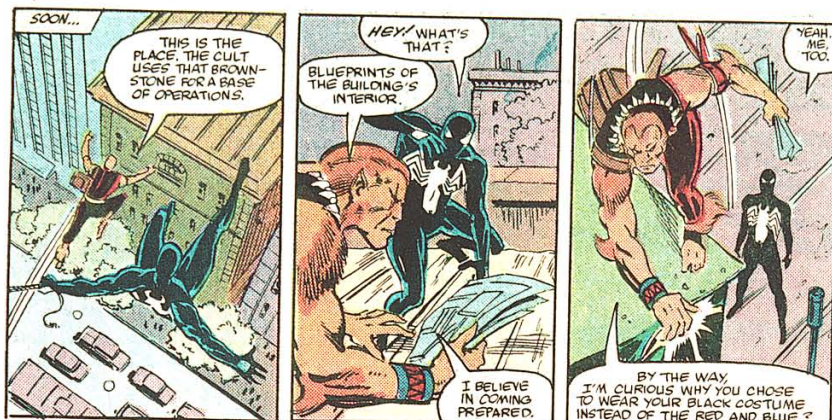


NO ONE KNOWS MUCH ABOUT HIM OR WHERE HE CAME FROM. HE WAS CONNECTED WITH THE VINNIE CORBO MOB FOR AWHILE... HAD A THING FOR GADGETS... AND WAS INVOLVED IN DRUGS, PROSTITUTION AND GAMBLING.

WHEN? THAT'S QUITE A REACH TO RELIGION! WHAT MAKES YOU THINK HE'S TIED UP WITH THESE COSMIC ONENESS PEOPLE?

HE WAS SPOTTED WHEN THE GROUP WAS FIRST SETTING UP.

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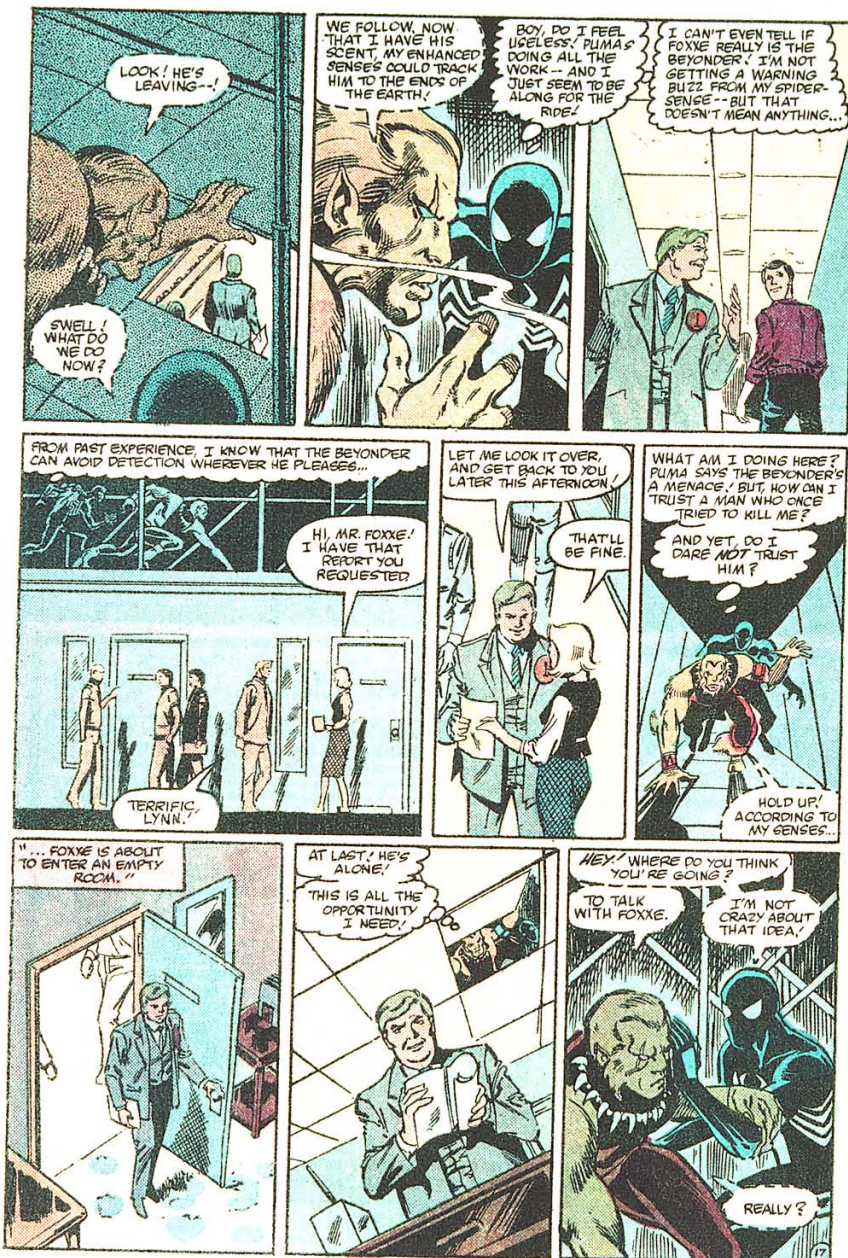
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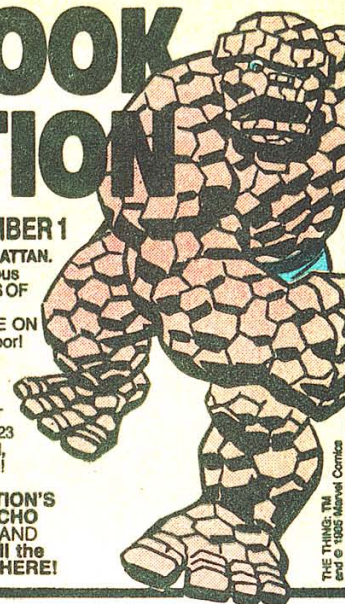
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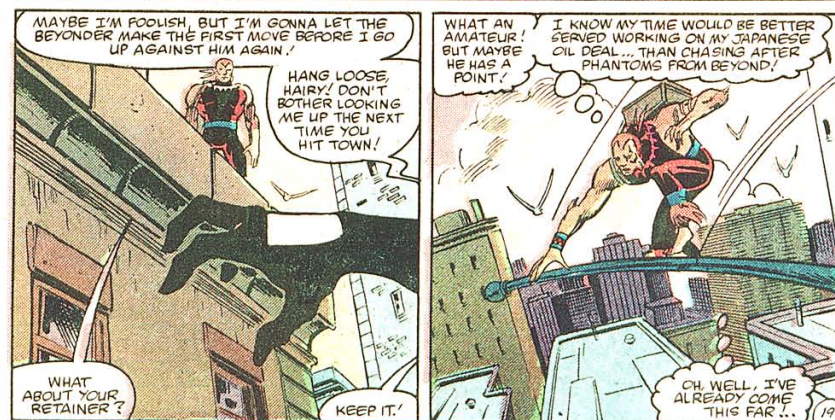
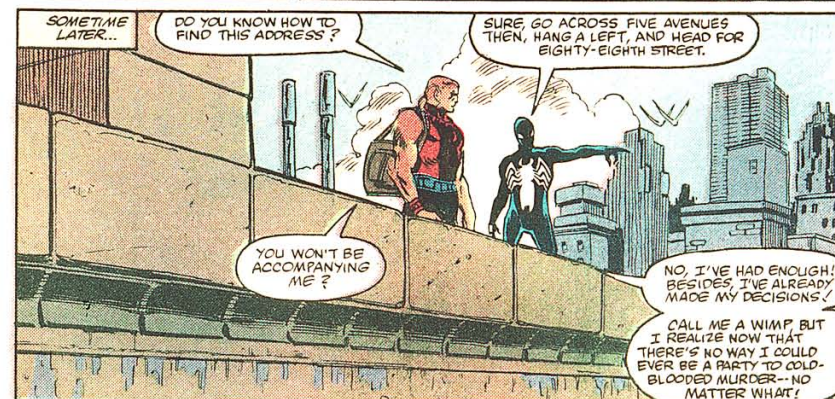
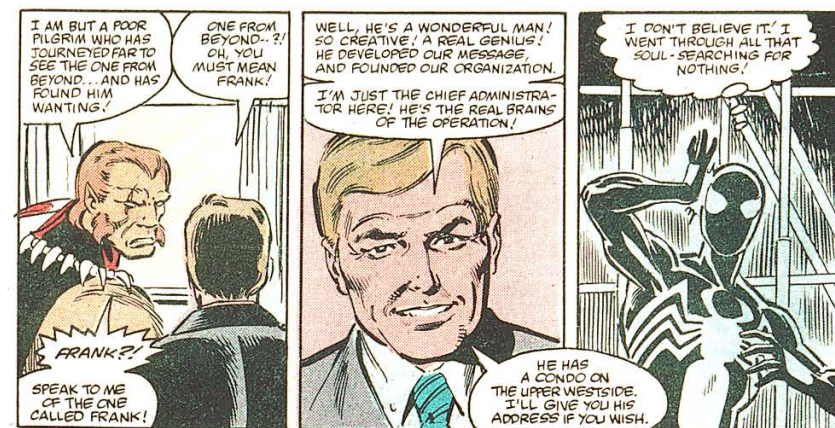
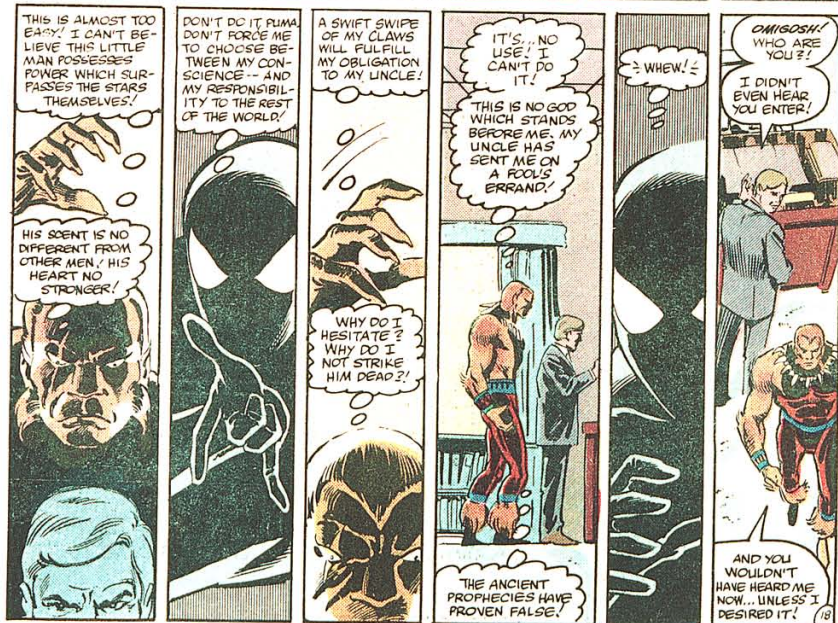
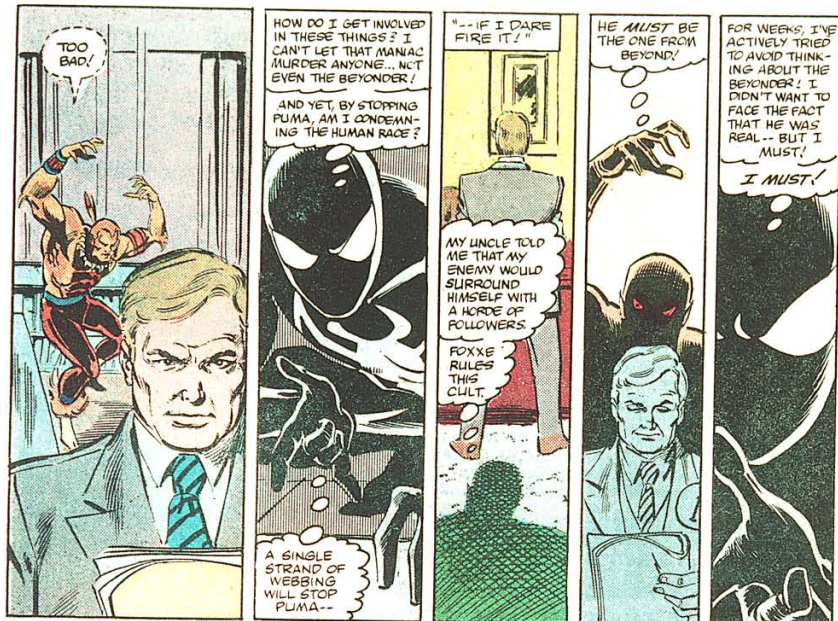
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--SKILLS?!



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GOOD IDEA. I'LL... CALL YOU LATER.



PLEASE DON'T THINK ME FORWARD, YOUNG LADY, BUT I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF PICKING YOU UP A LITTLE SOUVENIR -- A SILK KIMONO FROM JAPAN.

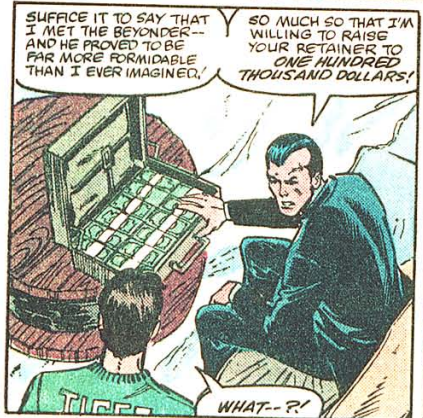
THAT'S... VERY SWEET.

THANK YOU.



JAPAN? WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN JAPAN?!

IT'S A LONG STORY SPIDER-MAN.



SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT I MET THE BEYONDER-- AND HE PROVED TO BE FAR MORE FORMIDABLE THAN I EVER IMAGINED.

SO MUCH SO THAT I'M WILLING TO RAISE YOUR RETAINER TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS!

WHAT--?!



MY BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH HIM CONVINCED ME THAT THE BEYONDER IS THE SINGLE GREATEST THREAT IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND!

SPIDER-MAN, WE MUST JOIN FORCES, AND HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!

HAVE YOU GONE PSYCHO?!



THERE'S NO WAY TO BEAT THAT GUY!

WE MUST FIND A WAY! THE FATE OF ALL HUMANITY HANGS IN THE BALANCE!

WE'LL PLAN CAREFULLY, AND ATTACK HIM BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF!



READ MY LIPS, PUMA-- YOU'RE NUTS!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SNEAK UP ON A GUY WHO'S OMNISCIENT! HE COULD EVEN BE LISTENING TO US RIGHT NOW!

ALL WE'D HAVE TO DO IS CALL HIM-- SHOUT "HEY, BEYONDER"--AND--



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BULLPEN BULLETINS

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL COMICS TRY-OUT CONTEST...

...began more than a year ago. Participants were invited to send in completed pages of *The Official Marvel Comics Try-Out Book* or comparable samples showing their skills as Plotters, Scripters, Pencillers, Inkers, Letterers, or Colorists. The best in each category would win his or her first professional comics job.

Response to the Try-Out Contest was enormous—far beyond our wildest expectations. It took months longer than we anticipated to sort and judge the many thousands of entries. Finally, however, we've finished!

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Plotter and Scripter: Chuck Duffie, L.A., CA

Penciler: Mark Bagley, Marietta, FLA

Inker: Doug Hazlewood, Victoria, TX

Letterer: Robin Riggs, East Sussex, U.K.

Colorist: P. Jeanine Pasda, Bethlehem, PA

For their absolutely outstanding entries, these fine people will each receive a classy certificate commemorating their victory, and their first regular professional assignment, which will be *finishing* the Spider-Man story "Personals" which was begun in the Try-Out Book. The result of their labors will be published next spring in a special giant-sized issue of *The Amazing Spider-Man*. And that, very likely, is just the beginning for our talented winners. Watch for their names in the future. I expect you'll be seeing a lot of them!

CAN YOU STILL TRY OUT?

Of course you can! The contest is over, but Marvel has always welcomed submissions (since I've been in charge, anyway) and always will. The need for new talent remains, and the opportunities for creators are better than ever.

You can still buy a copy of *The Official Marvel Comics Try-Out Book*, too. It can help you polish up your com-

ics skills and prepare for a career in comics, and it's the best way to submit samples, because the pages of the Try-Out Book are designed to simulate the actual working conditions comics creators face. And, it has how-to instructions to boot! You can pick up a copy at your local comics specialty shop, or send a check for \$12.95 (made out to Marvel Comics) to:

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387 Park Ave South
New York, NY 10016

GOOD-BYE!

For now. See you next month when I reveal some of the plans for Marvel's 25th Anniversary celebration!

Stay well!

Shooter

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECK LIST

- ☐ **THING #32**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #227**—The Kingpin finds a way to destroy DD, thanks to FRANK MILLER and DAVID MAZZUCHELLI!
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #36**—The Beyonder offers Ilyana salvation at a terrible price in this *Secret Wars II* cross-over!
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #11**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #5**
- ☐ **RED SONJA #12**
- ☐ **SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #8**
- ☐ **ROBOTIX #1**—A special one-shot by HERB TRIMPE!
- ☐ **CONAN ANNUAL #10**
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #3**—Featuring everyone from Cloak and Dagger to Doctor Strange.
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #273**—The Puma meets the Beyonder in this *Secret Wars II* cross-over!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #314**—Guest starring Nighthawk from the *Squadron Supreme*!
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #17**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #31**
- ☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE #75**
- ☐ **VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #3**—Experience issues #32-48!
- ☐ **LONGSHOT (Limited Series) #6**—The double-sized conclusion!
- ☐ **POWER PACK #19**—A double-sized extravaganza with guest stars galore!
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #316**—With She-Hulk, Iron Man, Sub-Mariner and more!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #264**—Introducing the new Yellowjacket! She's bad!

- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #179**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #184**
- ☐ **X-MEN #202**—Rachel attempts to kill the Beyonder in this *Secret Wars II* cross-over!
- ☐ **ROM #75**—Concluding the saga of the Spaceknight!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #44**
- ☐ **NIGHTCRAWLER (Limited Series) #4**
- ☐ **ETERNALS (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **PUNISHER (Limited Series) #2**
- ☐ **MARVEL SAGA #3**—Featuring the complete origin of Dr. Doom, and a whole lot more!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #287**—It had to happen! The return of the FF's most deadly foe!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #203**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPIDER-MAN #111**—Meet that amazing spider-friend, the Beyonder, in this *Secret Wars II* cross-over!
- ☐ **THOR #364**—Thor croaks!
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS #13**
- ☐ **SECRET WARS II (Limited Series) #8**—The Beyonder decides to bring about a golden age on earth!
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP INDEX #2**—Find out who Spidey's allies were in issues #24-50!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #1**—Cyclops, the Beast, Angel, and Iceman reunite with a surprise fifth member! This double-sized shocker of the year is brought to you by BOB LAYTON and JACKSON GUICE!
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #152**—This double-sized final issue is a *Secret Wars II* cross-over and an X-Factor tie-in! Miss it not!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO #17**

- ☐ **X-MEN ANNUAL #9**
- ☐ **MARVEL MAGAZINES**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #35**—Presenting a day in the life of the Marvel editors!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #120**
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL #39**—SANTA CLAUS, THE MOVIE! The official Marvel adaptation by SID JACOBSON (writer) and FRANK SPRINGER (artist), with a painted cover by TOM PALMER.
- ☐ **EPIC COMICS**
- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #12**
- ☐ **SISTERHOOD OF STEEL #7**
- ☐ **BOZZ CHRONICLES (Limited Series) #1**—An alien stranded in Victorian England earns his livelihood by detecting crimes! Written by DAVID MICHELINIE with art by BRET BLEVINS.
- ☐ **DREADSTAR #22**
- ☐ **ELQUEST #7**
- ☐ **ALIEN LEGION #11**
- ☐ **SIX FROM SIRIUS II (Limited Series) #1**—They're back with a bounty on their heads and trouble with the 4th Dimension! Written by DOUG MOENCH; painted by PAUL GULACY!
- ☐ **STAR COMICS**
- ☐ **PLANET TERRY #11**—Meet Terry's father, Vermin the Vile!
- ☐ **FRAGGLE ROCK #6**—Lost... in the strangest part of Fraggle Rock!
- ☐ **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE #6**
- ☐ **THUNDERCATS #2**—What are the Berblis?
- ☐ **MISTY #2**—Guest starring Millie the Model!
- ☐ **WALLY THE WIZARD #11**
- ☐ **TOD DOG #6**—Beware of those mad scientists, Frank 'n' Stein!
- ☐ **HEATHCLIFF #6**

THE WAR CONTINUES...

As the Beyonder rejects humanity and the Earth shudders beneath his insane fury.

It begins in . . .

SECRET WARS II #8



AND CONTINUES IN . . .

DEFENDERS #152

AVENGERS #265

FANTASTIC FOUR #288

NEW MUTANTS #37

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #274

X-MEN #203

And watch for the incredible conclusion
in **SECRET WARS II #9!**

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